

Applicants : Paul V. Werme *et al.*
Serial No. : 09/864,825
Filed : May 24, 2001
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Attorney Docket No.: Navy Case 83017

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 8-15 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Accordingly, claims 16-20 and 22-36 are pending in this application. No new matter is added by any of these amendments.

Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Amendment Entry After Final Rejection

Entry of this amendment is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: a) place the application in condition for allowance for all the reasons discussed herein; b) do not raise any new issues requiring further search or consideration; and c) address formal requirements of the Final Rejection and preceding Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Final Office Action indicates that claims 16-20 and 21-36 are allowed.

III. Anticipatory Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 8-9, 12, 14 and 15 as being allegedly anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent 6,041,306 to Du *et al.* (hereinafter "Du"). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

IV. Obviousness Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action further rejects claims 10, 11 and 13 as being allegedly obvious and thereby unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Du in view of U.S. Patent 6,654,029 to Chiu *et al.* (hereinafter "Chiu"). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

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V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerhard W. Thielman
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Date: October 17, 2006

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